

2007

Serving more people and providing more options for service, in a more cost effective way.









The Facts: May



All SEA 493 requirements implemented

Serving More People

- 15,133 people served on CHOICE the highest number ever served
- 5,829 on the CHOICE Waitlist the lowest number since 1999
- 6,028 on the Medicaid Waiver the highest number ever served
- 501 people on the waitlist for the A&D/TBI Waiver in January the lowest number ever
- 39,175 calls answered to date in APS; 76% higher than any other year

Providing More Options

- 100 % increase in Certified Assisted Living Facilities
- First ever Adult Foster Care Program 27 certified homes
- First ever Self Directed Attendant Care clients on Waiver

Utilizing Cost-Effective Principles

- 98,898 non-Medicaid people receiving services on track for the highest number ever served by year end
- \$30 million dollar positive variance on a \$1.4 billion dollar budget

Congratulations Waiver Unit!



Volume 2, No. 1

From the Secretary

Friends of Family & Social Services Administration



March Bank

s the 2007 session of the General Assembly works its way to conclusion, a number of critical issues impacting the larger "FSSA family" await final action. Many of you and your various trade and professional associations have been working closely with us on specific issues, and I am grateful for

your support and assistance. My focus continues to be on the Governor's Healthy Indiana Plan. Our successful Statehouse rally last month has energized us and sent an important message to all legislators. Both the immediate and long-term benefits of this plan will impact all of us. By reducing smoking, increasing immunizations and increasing the number of Hoosiers with health insurance, we are truly laying the foundation for a healthier Indiana.

The other critically important issue with universal impact for the FSSA family is the budget. It is still incredible to me that the House of Representatives would pass a budget that includes no increase in Medicaid spending. Although we have made outstanding progress in slowing the growth in Medicaid spending, the pressures of medical inflation and other program costs make it impossible to maintain levels of service without some increased spending. We anticipate that the Senate budget will restore some spending increase for Medicaid, but in the final hours of budget negotiations strange things can happen! I encourage all of you to share your concerns with your Representatives and Senators. The Healthy Indiana Plan is Senate Bill 503 and the budget is House Bill 1001.

In the next edition of the Advisor, we will highlight some of the new legislation and its impact on the FSSA family.

Division of Aging

Governor's Public Service Achievement Award

he Waiver Operations Unit in FSSA's Division of Aging was selected for a Governor's Public Service Award based on the team's work to reduce the waiting list for waiver services from 3,000 clients to 550 clients over the past year. At the same time the unit's eight staff members certified 107 new assisted living, adult day service and adult foster care providers as part of the Division of Aging's Options Program.

The Options Program uses Medicaid funds to allow older Hoosiers to select "options" for long term care based on their personal service needs. The program addressed funding inequities among the different kinds of long term care services provided by the waiver program. At the same time the staff aggressively promoted alternatives to traditional nursing facility care, such as home health care, adult foster care, adult day services and assisted living.

FSSA Secretary Mitch Roob commented, "I congratulate this outstanding group of employees for their key roles in implementing the Options Program. Thousands of older Hoosiers are now receiving support services because of their efforts. Many of these older Hoosiers are now living in comfortable and appropriate settings that they chose without fear of losing Medicaid benefits. These eight staff members can be proud of their service to our state and it citizens."



National Calls to Action

U.S. Centers for Disease	Disabled and Elderly Health	American Health Care Association	U.S. Administration	American Asso- ciation of Retired
Control and	Programs		of Aging	Persons
Prevention	Group			
Address health disparities among older adults, particularly in racial and ethnic minority populations. Encourage people to communicate their wishes about end-of-life care.	Make DEHPG the "place where everyone wants to work." Create a "balanced" long-term sup- port program that offers access to community- based options. Develop systems to	To improve the standards of service and administration of member nursing homes. To secure and merit public and official recognition and approval of the work of nursing homes.	Empower older people, their families, and other consumers to make informed decisions about, and to be able to easily access, existing health and long-term care options. Enable seniors to remain in their own	Improving Medicare by assuring access to affordable health care. To make prescription drugs more affordable by making lower priced generic drugs more common. Long-Term Support
Improve the oral health of older adults.	access seamless, coordinated, flexible long term supports.	To adopt and promote programs of education, legislation, better understanding and	homes with high quality of life for as long as possible through the provi- sion of home and	and Services: Access to safe services and support to help with daily activities.
Increase physical activity among older adults by promoting environmental changes.	Provide individuals the tools they need to lead "self-determined lives." Optimize an individ-	mutual cooperation. To provide quality care to the nation's frail, elderly and disabled, who are	community-based services, including supports for family caregivers. Empower older people to stay active and	Public funding should be used to allow people to get the help of their choice. In nursing homes and private homes,
Increase adult immunization, particularly in racial and ethnic minority populations.	ual's opportunity to direct their own supports. Advance quality principles in our	served by the long term care profes- sionals who com- prise AHCA's membership	healthy through Older Americans Act services and the new prevention benefits under Medicare.	and in the com- munity, people should get high- quality, appropri- ate care. Providers are respon-
Increase screening for colorectal cancer. Prevent falls, a lead- ing cause of hos- pitalization and	programs. Promote the sustainability of the Medicaid long term care program.		Ensure the rights of older people and prevent their abuse, neglect and exploitation.	sible for the ac- countability of these objectives.
injury deaths among older adults.			Maintain effective and responsive management.	

